10 October 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with the Secretary of Defense, 5 October 1979 (U)

- 1. I explained my role in the President's decision to make the SR-71 a one-way photographic flight. The Secretary indicated that they thought the improvement by going two ways was mainly against "non-national" targets--the closest I came to understanding that was that they were Cuban, not Soviet, targets. He also pointed out that you get the benefit of the holes in the clouds that might uncover what was covered on the first trip. He said, however, that he understood the President's position in wanting a one-way mission and that we'd look at it again after the first returns were in. (S)
- 2. I expressed my surprise at having received Carl Smith's memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski requesting an SCC meeting on to me it implied that I might be trying to slip through without consulting other people. I pointed out that I had twice raised the subject with the Secretary and had given him written materials on it, and that I had always intended to get his approval before going ahead. He replied that he simply had not had time to get into the proposal or to hear from his advisors. I said I certainly understood that but hoped that we could talk it out together before going into any meeting. He agreed fully with that and said we would do it--he didn't know how soon. I urged him to move ahead if he could because of all the delays we have already encountered. I further said that I had reluctance to go to an SCC meeting because of the high probability it would just result in some more requests for another report or another study or other forms of delay. I said I would prefer to clear it with him and with Vance and Brzezinski. He said he wasn't sure but after we talked he would decide whether he felt he ought to hear the views of these other people himself in an SCC meeting. (C)

STANSFIELD TURNER Director ORIGINAL CL BY -169947

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ETT SYMDS YAS BY

5 October 1979 Meeting with SecDef

"This was a sudden impromptu meeting of which we had no advance warning."

NO AGENDA SHEET

(Items covered were: 1. SR-71

2.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT (O/DCI)

Routing Slip

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Remarks:

Paragraphs extracted for action or info as indicated above.

Dexecutive Secretary